

RECEIVED

APR 07 1997

DOCKET # 96-245

P.O. BOX 1178 G.M.F.

BOSTON, MA 02205

1, April 1997

FCC MAIL ROOM

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Dear Mr. Caton,

Please do not turn over control of M.C.I. to British Telecom or anyone else with close ties to the British government. If you are aware of England's violent oppressive history in Ireland (ongoing) and in other places around the world and you care about human rights, you would not grant this takeover.

Thank you,
John Greeley

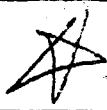
In England, there is no Constitution, no Bill of Rights, no separation of Church and State,

There, anything and everything goes.

CALIFORNIA REPORT



The West's Awake



A performance by two British military bands at the Oakland Coliseum on Nov. 1 was met by a large crowd of protesters, including members of Irish Northern Aid, Students for a United Ireland, and the Political Action Committee of the Ulster Gaelic Club.

The groups, who joined forces to organize the demonstration, released information to local media outlining the brutality of these two regiments, the Black Watch and Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, during tours of duty in British-occupied Ireland.

The protest was part of a nationwide campaign called to create awareness among the public that these performers are not just musicians, but are in fact fully-trained soldiers who have done tours of duty in Ireland.

Between 80 and 100 demonstrators picketed each entrance to the Oakland Coliseum, some carrying wooden crosses bearing the names of the 18 innocent people these regiments murdered in Ireland. In addition, two protesters ran out onto the stage during the performance and unfurled a banner reading "Free Ireland Now!" The behavior of the audience,

jeering the two demonstrators, led many within the Coliseum to leave in protest.

Others refused to enter the arena, despite already having bought tickets, on learning of the 18 deaths, which have been documented by the International Lawyers Inquiry "Shoot-To-Kill."

The Argylls in particular were responsible for two of the most gruesome murders in the present-day struggle.

The victims, two young farmers uninvolved in political activity, were stabbed to death by the regiment in Newtownbutler, Co. Fermanagh. The bodies of Michael Nann and Andrew Murray were so badly mutilated after the attack that the Royal Ulster Constabulary termed the case "The Fermanagh Pitchfork Murders." But the two men, despite their many wounds, were not killed by pitchforks, but by the bayonets of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders.

Between them, the two regiments have served 14 tours in northeast Ireland between 1970 and 1984. They are notorious for their brutality against the nationalist people of northeast Ireland.



The Black Watch Regiment in Ireland

Ironically, they are now touring the United States in an effort to boost their sagging image, tainted by their conduct in Ireland.

In media advertisements, the performance of these two regiments has been described as "breath-taking"—a cruel irony only understood by the family and friends of Michael Nann and Andrew Murray and the 16 other victims.

Two speakers from the Sinn Fein POW Department addressed the San Francisco chapter of Irish Northern Aid before the general election of officers on Saturday, November 4, at the United Irish Cultural Center.

In spite of transportation problems caused by the recent earthquake, the room was filled to hear Sean Adams and Siobhan O'Hanlon

describe the plight of over 700 Republican prisoners and their families.

"When you are in jail, your family is in jail with you," said Adams, who spent six years in the H-Blocks of Long Kesh. "There is no way we could have sustained the struggle these 20 years without the support Noraid has provided for our families."

O'Hanlon, who was imprisoned in Armagh and Maghaberry Jails, read aloud a letter from former hunger-striker Raymond McCartney which appealed for unity, thanked everybody for the outstanding work in the past, and urged even greater commitment in the future.

Paul Murray, national chairperson, opened the election with an outline of the responsibilities INA has undertaken:

1) To provide financial support for the prisoners and their families.

2) To organize political pressure on elected officials, encouraging them to support self-determination for the Irish people.

3) To generate publicity putting forward the Republican viewpoint and counteracting British propaganda in the American media.

Murray appealed for unity to carry out these tasks.

The chapter, which continues to grow, elected a chairperson, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and treasurer.

Anyone in the San Francisco Bay Area interested in working with Irish Northern Aid, or would like more information on the struggle for Irish freedom should contact P.O. Box 21457, Oakland, CA 94620

Irish People p11 11-18-89

War in Ireland

THE REPUBLICAN NEWS, Thursday, July 19th, 1990

EX-SOLDIERS CALL FOR NEGOTIATIONS

TELLING IT LIKE IT IS



SPEAKING OUT at a conference in London ex-British soldiers, all of whom had served in the Six Counties, called for the British government to immediately enter into unconditional negotiations with all parties concerned to speedily bring about a peaceful solution to the "centuries old conflict between Britain and Ireland"

All those who spoke at this important day-long conference on July 7th, organised by the Troops Out Movement, concluded that there was no progressive role for Britain to play in Ireland and that British military interference has failed.

Issuing a joint statement, the ex-soldiers said that given the recent admission by Peter Brooke that a military victory was unachievable, any further deaths or injuries to British soldiers or civilians is an unnecessary waste of life. They welcomed the statement by Nelson Mandela of the ANC, when he said that negotiation was the best way of resolving the conflict.

Their statement also called on the British government to

publish full and accurate statistics on all the casualties of the war in Ireland, "including those army casualties and deaths which have so far been withheld". They continued by calling on the government to highlight the high incidence of 'Post Traumatic Stress Disorder', suffered by soldiers and ex-soldiers, which has led to so many violent incidents.

EXPERIENCES

Over 250 people attended the conference, the main feature of which was the panel of ex-soldiers, who described their experiences while serving as part of the British army's force of occupation in the Six Counties and outlined the effects which the experience has

had on them.

Alan Robe, a former Royal Green Jacket, who served in the Six Counties between 1969 and 1974, described how he has seen many soldiers serving with him in Northern Ireland end up in military hospitals suffering from stress-related illnesses and how many of those serving alongside him were on drugs whilst in the army. He described serious abuses of power by both the army and RUC, ranging from squaddies opening fire at random from jeeps to RUC brutality towards members of the nationalist community and their totally different treatment of the loyalist community.

He returned to Britain and eventually became a miner.

He recalled: "I felt the other side of the coin, felt the full wrath of British justice. I felt it when, during the miners' strike, my wife was beaten up by riot police in the village at half one in the morning."

Fred Holroyd, ex-military intelligence officer and author of

War Without Honour, detailed the extent of Britain's dirty war tactics in Ireland.

BRITS ARE PROBLEM

According to David Roache, who served three tours in Ireland: "As far as I and the other soldiers were concerned, the enemy was the Irish, particularly the Catholics. Our aim going in there (Crossmaglen in 1982) was to kill someone, preferably one of the IRA, though as with the soldier who killed someone carrying an umbrella in Belfast in 1974, it didn't matter if they weren't."

John Hoof, who served in Palestine, said: "People talk very glibly about the 'Irish problem' — there isn't one. The Irish have a problem and it's the British..."

"How long must mothers watch their sons go to fight and maybe die in a war that need not continue, if Britain would withdraw from Ireland."

Aly Renwick, ex-soldier and author of *Last Night Another Soldier*, read from a letter he

had received from an ex-soldier now serving a long sentence in an English jail, who wrote: "I would really be too much to believe that the British soldier has come unscathed through 20 years of stress and trauma. Once in prison I was surprised at the number of ex-soldiers who are now my fellow inmates."

According to one woman who attended the day's proceedings and listened to the views of the former soldiers: "I never would have believed what was said today were it not coming from soldiers who have been there themselves — it was a real eye-opener and made me question a lot of what I've thought on the subject up until now."

The conference concluded with a call from the Troops Out Movement to increase pressure on the British government to withdraw from Ireland, to allow Irish people the simple right to national self-determination, the only solution which will bring about a lasting peace.

Leave me in peace, mother asks soldiers

A young Poleglass mother claims her life is being made a misery by constant abuse and attention from the British Army in the estate.

Mrs Frances Symington, a separated mother of three, said that since the first-ever raid on her home in April of this year, she's been the object of a campaign of vilification and is now afraid to leave her house for fear of encountering a foot patrol. She added that the strain of the past three months is having a profoundly disturbing effect on her youngest child, a four-year-old boy.

A large raiding party of British soldiers and RUC arrived at the Symington family home for the first time in the early hours of April 3rd and ransacked the house. Mrs Symington says she was given no explanation as to why her house was being searched or under what legislation the search was being conducted. The raid ended after several hours with nothing being found.

Since then, claims Mrs Symington, British soldiers have lost no opportunity to accost her on the street, joking and hurling crude sexual insults when they pass her on the street. "It got to the point where I just couldn't take any more," she said, speaking from her Laurelbank home. "One day when they started shouting after me as usual, I shouted back at them. One of the patrol called that they'd be in for a visit within the week. Sure enough, they were back for the second time at 5.30 in the morning just days later. That happened on Friday week. They went right through the house again, breaking the TV set, punching holes in the wall and trying to pull the fire out of the wall. They stayed for four hours and since then, if anything, things have got even worse." (The army's civilian representative has since agreed to reimburse Mrs Symington for the cost of the damage).

Since then Mrs

Symington has become a virtual prisoner in her own home, venturing out only when absolutely necessary. Her sister, who lives nearby, has agreed to run messages for her. But even that hasn't put a stop to the harassment, she says. The soldiers have taken to accosting her children on the street, she claims, and are coming into her garden, knocking on the window and peering into the living room.

"I'm finding it very hard to cope at present," said Mrs Symington. "It's hard to sleep at night. I keep thinking that there are soldiers outside the house and at night when I hear the sound of a vehicle in the cul-de-sac it makes me jump. But I'm even more concerned about the effect this is all having on my youngest child. He's started to wet the bed and he runs home in a terrible state whenever he sees British soldiers passing. The other day they came up to him on the street and followed him to the house



•Mother targeted by B.A.: "It's got to the point where I just can't take anymore".

when he ran home. I don't know what I've done to deserve any of this, all I know is that I've had just about all I can take. Why can't they just leave me and my family in peace?"

Local Sinn Féin Councillor Michael Ferguson said that such incidents were unfortunately only too common as far as the British Army in Twinbrook and Pole-

glass is concerned. "It's all part of a systematic campaign of harassment and intimidation against perfectly innocent members of the community," he said. "The soldiers involved think it's a huge joke to intimidate a woman on her own like this. They have absolutely no concern for the devastating effect that it's having on the people concerned."

British Terrorism

h Newsletter - - June 1996

Dublin/Monaghan Bombings: Justice Denied

The highest death toll for any one event in the conflict in Ireland came on May 17, 1974. On that day three car bombs exploded in Dublin at the height of the afternoon commute. Twenty-six people were killed and 253 were injured. Ninety minutes later, a car bomb exploded in Monaghan town killing another seven people.

The questions still remain. No one was ever questioned, charged or convicted of the bombings. British Intelligence has always been suspected of being behind the bombings.

The bombings came during the Ulster workers strike in protest of the Sunningdale Agreement that gave Dublin its first say in how the affairs of the North were run through the Council of Ireland. Harold Wilson (he proposed a united Ireland within 15 years) had returned to power and it is believed that British intelligence feared a move towards a united Ireland. Two weeks after the bombings, Sunningdale collapsed.

In 1993 Yorkshire Television produced a documentary, revealing dramatic new evidence that points the finger at British intelligence in both the bombings and the subsequent cover-up.

The program claimed that the identities of eight of the UVF bombers were known to the Gardai within days of the explosion. All were members of the UVF's mid-Ulster brigade and well known figures in the UVF such as William "Frenchy" Marchand, Billy Hanna and Harris Boyle. Also named were officers in the elite British Army Unit 'Four Field Survey Troop', Lieutenant Robert Nairac and Captain Tony Ball. *The IRA got Nairac.*

The allegations of involvement by British intelligence centered on an SAS training facility on a farm in County Armagh. Yorkshire Television spoke to police, military and loyalist sources who claimed a link between these British Army officers, loyalist terrorists and the RUC Special Branch.

Former SAS Captain Fred Holroyd, who was military intelligence officer in Portadown where the suspects were based, said that in the investigation: "I wasn't asked once by anyone to question my sources or to try to find out any information about this whatsoever. At the time and immediately afterwards, there was no interest at all. It was quite some time after that my Special Branch colleague told me in fact who the Portadown men were who were involved in this and where the cars had come from" (Holroyd sent the names of the bombers to the Gardai in 1987). *Holroyd was/is a decent man.*

Even now, Irish Minister for Justice Nora Owen has told the Dail that, while they are still investigating the contents of the Yorkshire program and a subsequent program on Irish television entitled *Friendly Forces*, there isn't ample evidence for any prosecutions.

So the conspiracy continues and justice is denied for the families of those slaughtered.

British
Terrorism

Irish Times
6, May 1991.

Britain ^{Aer} repeats ^{Lingus} assurance '68 on Irish air crash

A BRITISH Minister has stated that no records are available for the military rocket testing range at Aberforth on the Welsh coast for the day in 1968 when an Aer Lingus Viscount crashed in the Irish Sea. The British Government still insists, however, that the Aer Lingus plane was not brought down by a stray missile.

Mr Kenneth Carlisle, the under-minister for defence procurement, has repeated the British Government's assurance that the Aberforth range was closed on the day in question. In a letter to Mr Bernard Moffatt, assistant general secretary of the Isle of Man-based Celtic League, which monitors military movements affecting the Celtic countries, has said that records are not available for the days of March 23rd and 24th, 1968. The Viscount went down off the Tuskar Rock on March 23rd with the loss of 61 lives.

Mr Moffatt told *The Irish Times* yesterday that he had written to Sir Christopher Tugendhat, chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority, claiming that the Aberforth range posed a threat to nine air routes, mainly between Ireland and Britain.

Yesterday, it was reported that the CAA is investigating a report that an Alitalia jet carrying 57 passengers nearly collided with what the captain claimed was a missile. The reported incident occurred almost directly above Lydd Ranges, a Ministry of Defence firing range in Kent.

The reported incident occurred on April 21st as the McDonnell Douglas MD-80 headed toward London, according to a report in the *Sunday Times*. The newspaper said a Ministry of Defence spokesman denied any operation in the area.

A Civil Aviation Authority spokesman, Mr John Freeman, yesterday confirmed the reported sighting by an Italian pilot and a subsequent detection of an unidentified image in the area by the London air traffic control.

The pilot said the object was light brown, round and about three metres long, and was travelling in the opposite direction to his aircraft a thousand feet above him," Mr Freeman said. "The air traffic controllers saw a faint primary radar trace 10 miles behind the Alitalia aircraft."

Adjudication

that I
ard at
d be."
to the
enera-
land's
ntinue

at St
e the
ev F.
burke-
the
t Mr
ic an
a. Mr
r and
Dillon
Ni
atrick
rothy.
Mr
and

From the North

by Rev. Des Wilson, Director, Springhill Community, Belfast

re: British withdrawal

The only democratic solution to the problems in the north of Ireland is a British withdrawal. The reasons for this have been explained many times and can be summed up thus: The British Administration cannot provide true democracy for the Irish, for true democracy does not exist for the British at home, and nothing short of modern democracy will be acceptable to democrats in Northern Ireland.

The task is to find a formula which will enable the British to withdraw without appearing to surrender. Such a formula is available if the British stop stalling and enter into all-party negotiations. An extreme right-wing British government could do it more readily than a weak Majorite or a Labor government.

It is naive to say to the British establishment that they now have the best opportunity in hundreds of years to make an honorable settlement, as some of its most powerful members want to remain in control in Ireland. They do not appreciate such language.

It is reality that unless they make an honorable settlement now, the war will resume. This would condemn the people of the north to decades more of repression, internal conflict, industrial and commercial frustration, and, eventually, a war more severe than anything we have seen so far.

In the past, the men and women who were militarily active in the 1940's and 1950's had a moderating influence on today's Irish Republican Army. They were relied upon to ensure that war, however severe, never went beyond certain limits or, if it did, the people responsible would be told in clear terms that such warfare was not acceptable to the republican family as a whole. The IRA refused, for example, to be drawn into a sectarian war even when the resources of British intelligence were being used to try to create one. When those efforts failed, British and Irish media said it was a sectarian war, nevertheless--every soldier or police officer attacked was attacked because he or she was a Protestant. When the IRA attacked Catholics who were police, soldiers or judges, the media then said not only was the IRA sectarian by attacking Protestants, but also was cruelly indifferent event to its own. But it was never a sectarian war, even when Catholics were killed by government encouraged loyalists to make it appear so.

There is little doubt that if the war resumes, some of the restraints will be swept away by a generation of young people angry, intellectually capable, and convinced that old methods have had their day.

Democrats who point this out to British and Irish officials are accused of threatening them with war, thus justifying the British line that Irish democrats have guns under the table to use if they do not get their way. The inability of most journalists, politicians, academics and church people to analyze an obvious situation will be one of the factors leading to a resumption of the war, if that tragedy happens.

How can a resumption of the war be prevented? If the British government wants it to resume, then nothing Irish democrats can do will prevent that from happening. The British by a series of deliberate and well calculated manoeuvres turned the peaceful civil rights movement of the 60's into a revolutionary war which they thought they could deal with and win. Time and organizational ability on the part of the IRA showed they were wrong, but the lesson seems not to have penetrated Whitehall consciousness. They believe even yet that they can win a guerilla war fought to drive them out of territory where they are economically damaging and politically unjustified.

For many Irish democrats the problem is that although the British have never won against a revolutionary war and know that the UK is going to dissolve into a new form (even apart from the Irish secession) they are still imprisoned by historical mind sets. They cannot cope with historical

movements which other people would accept with a shrug of the shoulders and make the most of.

One thing that will prevent a resumption of war is British fear that London will also suffer. If by some stroke of magic the British could get the IRA to give up all explosives and its ability to make explosives, that would be the last we would hear of the peace process. But life is not like that and 600,000 democrats in the north are hardly likely to agree to a decommissioning which for many of them would be equivalent to getting notice to quit the Northern Ireland state forever. It happened in the 1920's and 1960's. Democrats know they would be foolish to let it happen again.

International pressure, especially from the US, to get the British government into negotiation with all elected representatives of the people is an essential for permanent peace.

Our Best Tool...

Is not being used! The PEC Telephone Hotline -- (914) 429-7849 -- is PEC's most effective and quickest tool for contacting our government leaders. Yet, it's not used as it should be.

Recently, there has been much activity in Washington that has required member action to our nation's political leaders. Our members who use the Hotline have been right on top of things, including playing a crucial role in the success of the MacBride Principles in the House of Representatives.

Imagine the impact the Hotline would have if 1,000 members used it weekly. PEC would be able to generate at least 1,000 calls and letters to opinion makers. That is real clout. Now is the time we must be demonstrating clout to keep the peace process moving and in the right direction.

So start using the PEC Telephone Hotline (914) 429-7849. Messages change every Sunday night. Hotline is in service 24 hours-a-day, 7 days-a-week. You can pass the message on to other concerned people.